

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

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Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that his office has filed formal charges against the man accused of robbing the West Frankfort, Illinois, Burger King and kidnaping its assistant manager. A federal complaint was filed Monday against **JONATHON MILTON MARTIN**, 43, of 1100 North Elm, Centralia, Illinois. The complaint charges **MARTIN** with the kidnaping of Kimberly Mcghee. A complaint is merely a method for charging a federal offense and does not create an inference of guilt. All defendants are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

The federal offense with which **MARTIN** is charged carries a penalty of up to life imprisonment, a fine of up to \$250,000 and a term of 5 years supervised release.

The complaint is the culmination of an investigation that was conducted by several law enforcement agencies working in close cooperation. Those agencies involved in the investigation were the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the West Frankfort Police Department, the Centralia Police Department, the St. Louis City Police Department, the Franklin County Sheriff's Department, the Illinois State Police, the Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms, the Drug Enforcement Administration and the United States Marshals Service. The prosecuting authorities involved in the investigation and prosecution of the matter are the United States Attorney's Office, the Franklin County State's Attorney and the Marion County State's Attorney.

The federal aspect of the case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney George Norwood. Franklin County States Attorney William Richardson will pursue the state aspects of the case. "The speedy initiation of charges in this matter is a by product of the close cooperation between state and federal law enforcement in this matter," Tenpas noted. "We will continue to work closely with Franklin County State's Attorney Bill Richardson to achieve the best possible results" Tenpas added.